## Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 04970 172016Z ACTION EB-07

R 171620Z DEC 76 FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1951

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PASS AGRICULTURE FOR ASST. SEC. BELL; FAS/ANDERSON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, CA

SUBJ: CANADA'S POLICY ON U.S./CANADIAN MEAT TRADE

1. DURING THE CURRENT WEEK, AGRICULTURE MINISTER WHELAN HAS MADE STATEMENTS ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS REGARDING CANADA'S OPPOSITION TO PARTICIPATING IN THE U.S. VRA. EMBASSY IS AWARE OF PRESS AND WIRE SERVICE COVERAGE WHICH HAS GIVEN RISE TO QUESTION IF GOC POSITION HAS CHANGED. AGATT. HAS HEARD THREE OF WHELAN'S STATEMENTS - AND IN NO CASE HAS HE STATED THAT CANADA WILL NOT RPT. NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY MANNER. THE LANGUAGE HAS BEEN STRONG AND THE INFERENCE THAT CANADA WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IS PRESENT PARTICULARLY FOR PERSONS WHO ARE UNAWARE THAT THERE IS AN OPTION TO PARTICIPATION UNDER A VRA.

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## Message Attributes

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Subject: CANADA'S POLICY ON U.S./CANADIAN MEAT TRADE TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, EPAP, CA, US, (WHELAN, EUGENE) To: STATE

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